China

(a) to (f) China continues to be in illegal occupation of approximately 38,000 sq. km. in the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir. India and China have expressed commitment to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution of the boundary issue through peaceful negotiations in a bilateral framework. The two sides also agreed that pending an ultimate settlement of the boundary question, they would work together to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. The Special Representatives representing the two countries have so far held six rounds of talks and signed the Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for Settlement of India-China Boundary Question in April 2005 during the visit of the Chinese Premier to India. They are mandated to work out an agreed framework for a boundary settlement, which will provide the basis for the delineation and demarcation of the India-China boundary.

Nepal

(a) to (f) The India-Nepal boundary is based on the Treaty of Sugauli of 1816 between the British East India Company and Kingdom of Nepal and subsequent treaties and agreements. There are differences in perception in some segments. India and Nepal have established a Joint Technical Committee, to resolve these differences of perception on the alignment of boundary in various segments. Its last meeting was held in New Delhi in September 2005.

Nuclear agreement with USA

445. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to have access to nuclear technology India has an agreement with USA;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the agreement entails splitting of the country's civilian and military nuclear facilities and place its civilian reactors under the global scanner;

(c) whether it amounts to a compromise with our policy of non-

alignment as envisaged by the first Prime Minister of the country; and

(d) if so, what were the compulsions before the Government for abandoning the path of non-alignment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) India and US reached an understanding on cooperation in civil nuclear energy on 18 July 2005 during the visit of Prime Minister to US in the context of India's quest for energy security as an essential component of our vision of our development.

(b) Under the terms of this understanding, India will be identifying and separating its civilian and military nuclear facilities and programmes in a phased manner and filing a declaration regarding its civilians facilities with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and would place voluntarily its civilian nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards.

(c) The understanding on cooperation in civil nuclear energy in no way compromises India's traditional non-alignment policy that mandates decisions to be taken on the basis of our national interests and national security considerations only.

(d) Does not arise.

ITER negotiations at Korea

446. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India was on Tuesday December 6, 2005, admitted as a full partner into the consortium of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), at the ITER negotiations at Jeju-Republic of Korea;

(b) if so, what rights and obligations have been confessed on India thereby; and

(c) the precise constitution and functions of ITER?